

## **Home and School Minutes** **January 15, 2018**

### **Attendance:**

Kelly Arfin-Gurevich, Andrea Altman, Liz Allen, Melissa Hoffman, Ilana Popliger, Lana Geller, Melissa Levy, Andrew Shotton, Chantal Latour, Alia Odubayo, Nathia Messina, Erin Richler, Corey Szwarcok

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

2 additions to the agenda: Subway Lunches and Cugini's Pizza Fundraiser. With these 2 additions, a motion by Andrea to approve the January agenda, seconded by Ilana. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.

### **Approval of November Minutes**

Motion by Liz to approve the November minutes, seconded by Melissa L. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

After we paid for the curtains and Dare to Care, we have about \$12 000 in the bank  
We normally spend about \$3000 on winter carnival  
We will have about \$2000 in other expenses  
And I'm sure there will be some requests from drama for the play

### **Administration Report**

Open house will be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>. There are going to be 2 daytime sessions and 2 evening sessions. Grade 5 and 6 students will be ambassadors and provide tours for all the sessions. During the day, parent volunteers will accompany the groups, and the kindergarten teachers will be there for the evening sessions as well.

Registration for siblings has started and we already have 25 siblings registered, already well into filling a second class.

Jr Leadership Day is going to be held at Westpark this year, on February 9th, which is a ped day. There are 5 students from grade 5, and 5 students from grade 6 who will be chosen to attend from each of the participating schools. Students hear a talk by guest speaker Hannah Alper from Me to WE, and will attend workshops led by high school students, discussing how to prepare for high school and what leadership opportunities await them in high school.

Westpark is the only school that has a separate room and teacher for our science program, and we are so fortunate for this. After new tables and chairs were bought for the science room, and seeing how great it looked, the school knew it was time to redo the floor in there as well. This week, the science room floor was redone, and the room looks amazing. A request for the floor will be asked, anything we can contribute will be much appreciated.

Dare to Care- the grade 5 and 6 *Take the Time* days will be held on Feb 7th and 8th , the K-4 assemblies are going to be held on the 13th and 14th. There is also going to be a parent information evening Feb 12th. It always helps strengthen the bully prevention message, and ways to get help in those situations when kids, teachers, school staff, and parents all use the same terms, language, and concepts.

### **Teacher's Report**

Receipts from many teachers for the allocations have been given in today, which is our deadline. Nothing else to report at this time.

### **Membership**

We currently have 36 members

### **Updates**

**Pizza** – we got 3 new pizza orders this week

**Adult Evening** – the hypnotist Scott Hammel has been booked, he has performed in many places across Canada and the US, including a show in Las Vegas. His cost will be around \$2200, may be less if he books multiple shows in Montreal. Governing Board has approved this fundraiser. The night will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

In the past, we had been approached by some Westpark families regarding sponsorship opportunities for our events. We had been approached last year once it was too late, but with proper planning this year, we can look into this for advertising revenue.

**Chocolate Bar Sales** – We are still missing payment from 10 boxes of chocolate. These families will not get boxes in the future. Following paper invoices, and then email follow up, we were able to collect from 27 families who had not paid for their chocolates. Our teacher reps offered to ask the homeroom teachers who have regular communication with the 10 families if they would be willing to send a message to try to get that money collected. As of now we have about \$15 000 profit, which makes for a very successful chocolate bar campaign.

**Teacher Appreciation Week** – We discussed the events that will take place during Teacher Appreciation week at this meeting, but details will be included in the minutes from the next meeting so we do not ruin the surprise for the teachers.

### **Approved fundraisers**

**Zumba Party** – will be held on May 10 from 19:00-20:00. If we have the party in the spring, then we might be able to hold it outside. We will try and get fitness related raffle / door prizes as donations for the event. We will keep the pricing the same as last year at \$10/family.

### **New Business**

**Winter Carnival** – This year the gym teachers decided to hold carnival week earlier, since the last week of February has been a bad weather week causing carnival activity cancellations, for the past few years. A request for \$3000 was made to pay for part of the busing costs for the grades 3-6 skiing/tubing field trip,

and the k-2 sledding activity. This is what we have given for carnival activities in the past. Home and School usually pays for (and distributes) hot chocolate and cookies during carnival week.

**Popcorn Sales** – to be discussed at next meeting

**Pizza Fundraiser** – We were approached by Germano from Cugini's for a pizza fundraiser. He proposed to make pizza kits which include dough, sauce and cheese. Samples were given to Kelly and Nathia; they reported how easy it was to make and how good it tasted. The kits can be refrigerated for a long period of time or possibly frozen. He said he needs about a 2 week turn around to get the orders prepared. He proposed to charge \$25 for 3 12" pizzas in a large kit with a profit of \$5, or 1 12" pizza for \$10 and we get a \$3 profit. His idea is to sell something that can be made and enjoyed as a family.

We don't anticipate making a lot of money on the first run of this type of fundraiser. Word of mouth will help increase sales on this in the future. That being said, there won't be a lot of work on our end to run this. If we want to go ahead for this fundraiser we still need governing board approval, and then we can run this after March break. Kelly will bring it up to governing board.

**Subway Lunches** – We have been approached by a Subway restaurant location (not the same one as the one we used for a fundraiser last year). Our school is already at the maximum number of food fundraisers permitted, and due to the issues we had last year, we are reluctant to offer Subway sandwiches as a fundraiser again this year. We do not make nearly as much profit as we do on pizza lunches, nor do we encounter the quality and logistics issues we have faced with Subway.

**Home & School Executive Elections** – Elections take place in April, positions that will be up for election this year are chair, vice chair, and membership. An email will be sent out at a later date to inform people who might be interested how to run and/or vote for these positions. In order to be elected or to vote, one must be a current member of Home & School in good standing. Anyone can join H&S at any point prior to the vote taking place.

**Special Activity** – Corey from Dynamix/Everblast came to propose activity days. In the past, we have hired them to run fun days in June, and at other times during the year. Corey is willing to offer his activities at a special rate for Westpark. He has team building activities with Dynamix, and many fun activities with Everblast (laser tag) and connections for inflatables to rent. We will send an email with a list of activities and prices if we are interested in having him come to the school for a special event. To reduce the cost further, we might be able to use parent volunteers in place of some of his staff members. Depending on the activities chosen, and available dates, he can propose a schedule of activities over 2 days for about \$3000.

At this time, we are not prepared to allocate money towards this, as we have to see how our fundraisers do for the rest of the year. While these activities are certainly fun for the kids, when you break it down, it is still a large amount of money, and each child/class only gets to benefit for 60-90 minutes or less, over the course of the two days. We have to really look to see if this is the best use of our money, considering we are very fortunate to have amazing phys. ed. teachers who are very great at planning school-wide carnivals and activities for significantly less money.

## **Voting**

- 1- A motion was made by Kelly to allocate \$3000 for the science room floor/renovations, the motion was seconded by Liz; all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.
- 2- A motion was raised by Andrew to run the Cuguini's Pizza fundraiser pending governing board approval. The motion was seconded by Lana; all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.
- 3- A motion was raised by Andrea to allocate up to \$3000 for the winter carnival field trip activities. The motion was seconded by Ilana; all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.
- 4- A motion was raised by Liz to allocate up to \$500 for hot chocolate and cookies during carnival week. The motion was seconded by Kelly; all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.
- 5- A motion was raised by Andrew to allocate up to \$550 for teacher appreciation week. The motion was seconded by Andrea; all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.